

BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

In the Matter of

WILLIAM E. MORA, M.D.

Holder of License No. 13088
For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine
In the State of Arizona.

Case No. MD-04-0102A
MD-05-0969A
MD-05-1206A
MD-06-0669A
MD-08-0890A

**CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR
ORDER OF STAYED REVOCATION**

CONSENT AGREEMENT

By mutual agreement and understanding between the Arizona Medical Board ("Board") and William E. Mora, M.D. ("Respondent"), the parties agreed to the following disposition of this matter.

1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and the stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement"). Respondent acknowledges that he has the right to consult with legal counsel regarding this matter and has done so or chooses not to do so.

2. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Respondent voluntarily relinquishes any rights to a hearing or judicial review in state or federal court on the matters alleged, or to challenge this Consent Agreement in its entirety as issued by the Board, and waives any other cause of action related thereto or arising from said Consent Agreement.

3. This Consent Agreement is not effective until approved by the Board and signed by its Executive Director.

4. The Board may adopt this Consent Agreement or any part thereof. This Consent Agreement, or any part thereof, may be considered in any future disciplinary action against Respondent.

5. This Consent Agreement does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and does not constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding. The acceptance of this Consent Agreement does not preclude any other agency, subdivision or officer of this State from instituting other civil or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is the subject of this Consent Agreement.

6. All admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this matter and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving the Board and Respondent. Therefore, said admissions by Respondent are not intended or made for any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal government regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal court proceeding, in the State of Arizona or any other state or federal court.

7. Upon signing this agreement, and returning this document (or a copy thereof) to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke the acceptance of the Consent Agreement. Respondent may not make any modifications to the document. Any modifications to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties.

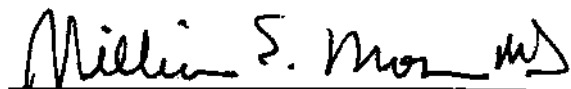
8. If the Board does not adopt this Consent Agreement, Respondent will not assert as a defense that the Board's consideration of this Consent Agreement constitutes bias, prejudice, prejudgment or other similar defense.

9. This Consent Agreement, once approved and signed, is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank and to the Arizona Medical Board's website.

10. If any part of the Consent Agreement is later declared void or otherwise unenforceable, the remainder of the Consent Agreement in its entirety shall remain in force and effect.

11. Any violation of this Consent Agreement constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result in disciplinary action. A.R.S. § § 32-1401(27)(r) (“[v]iolating a formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under this chapter”) and 32-1451.

12. Respondent has read and understands the conditions of probation.


WILLIAM E. MORA, M.D.

DATED: 1/26/09

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

2. Respondent is the holder of license number 13088 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

3. The Board initiated case numbers MD-04-0102A, MD-05-0969A, MD-05-1206A, MD-06-0669A, and MD-08-0890A after receiving complaints alleging Respondent performed surgery without indication, did not use an aseptic technique during surgery, inappropriately prescribed and dispensed large quantities of short acting opioid analgesics over long periods of time, inappropriately billed patients, inappropriately managed the care of an elderly patient, dispensed medications without a dispensing license, violated a Board Order and behaved erratically.

4. From November 1998 through February 2004, Respondent performed multiple, ill-advised and unsuccessful surgeries on two patients, NM and GN.

5. Following a procedure for patient DB, Respondent discovered that he had not removed hardware from the surgical site. He then removed the hardware without re-prepping or re-draping the patient.

6. Respondent prescribed and dispensed large quantities of short acting opioid analgesics over long periods of time to patients DB, GN, and NM for chronic pain without referral to pain management. Further, Respondent billed DB, GN, and NM for multiple upper extremity muscle strength and pulse oximeter evaluations which were questionable.

7. The standard of care requires a physician to perform surgery when indicated and to use an aseptic technique during the performance of a clean surgical procedure.

8. Respondent deviated from the standard of care because the multiple surgeries performed on patients NM and GN were ill-advised and because he failed to use an aseptic technique during the surgical procedure for DB.

9. NM had multiple procedures that ultimately resulted in a wrist infection. GN's multiple surgical procedures resulted in deformity that required three additional surgeries.

10. Patient DB was at an increased risk of postoperative infection following Respondent's failing to maintain an aseptic technique.

11. Respondent deviated from the standard of care in the treatment of patients NM, DB and GN by prescribing excessive amounts of Acetaminophen.

12. Respondent admitted to dispensing medication without a dispensing license prior to April 19, 2004, and from July 1, 2004 to December 9, 2005.

13. On February 14, 2003, Respondent saw GB, an eighty-five year-old female patient and noted a history of endoscopic carpal tunnel surgery that GB underwent one month prior with a resulting ulnar artery injury, pseudoaneurysm, and blood transfusion two days prior to the visit. Respondent noted a pulsatile hematoma of the right palm and scheduled GB for surgery on February 18, 2003. However, GB died prior to surgery. The medical examiner's report noted a dehiscence of her wound, evidence of exsanguination, and rupture of the pseudoaneurysm.

14. The standard of care for an iatrogenic pseudoaneurysm in an elderly patient with a recent wound that required a transfusion of two units of packed cells requires the physician to manage the patient in an urgent and timely manner and apply a compression dressing or hospitalize the patient.

15. Respondent deviated from the standard of care in his treatment of patient GB because he did not manage GB in an urgent and timely manner and he did not apply a compression dressing or hospitalize her.

16. The Board received notification that Respondent was under review by his employer's review board for performing a surgical procedure inconsistent with reasonable standards of medical care. On January 9, 2006, the Board received a copy of a police report that Respondent was charged with assault and threat. On February 3, 2006, the Board ordered Respondent to undergo an evaluation at a treatment facility. Respondent was discharged on February 15, 2006, with a recommendation that he present for residential treatment for a minimum of thirty to ninety days. On February 17, 2006, Respondent was issued an Interim Consent Agreement for Practice Restriction and residential treatment requiring Respondent to undergo treatment and to comply with any recommendations made by the treatment facility. Respondent entered treatment on May 15, 2006, but was discharged due to his noncompliance on July 13, 2006. The treatment facility recommended he immediately enter treatment at another facility. Respondent did not enter treatment until September 2006, in violation of the Board's order that he enter a treatment program by August 17, 2006.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Respondent.

2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401 (27)(j) ("[p]rescribing, dispensing or administering any controlled substance or prescription-only drug for other than accepted therapeutic purposes."), A.R.S. § 32-1401 (27)(q) ("[a]ny conduct or practice that is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of the patient or the public."), A.R.S. § 32-1401 (27)(r) ("[v]iolating a formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under the provisions of this chapter."), A.R.S. § 32-1401 (27)(u) ("[c]harging a fee for services not rendered or dividing a professional fee

for patient referrals among health care providers or health care institutions or between these providers and institutions or a contractual arrangement that has the same effect. . .”), A.R.S. § 32-1401 (27)(v) (“[o]btaining a fee by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.”), A.R.S. § 32-1401 (27)(kk) (“[f]ailing to dispense drugs and devices in compliance with article 6 of this chapter.”) and A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(ll) (“[c]onduct that the board determines is gross negligence, repeated negligence or negligence resulting in harm to or the death of a patient.”).

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT License Number 13088, issued to William E. Mora, M.D. ("Respondent") for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona, is revoked. However, this revocation is stayed under the following conditions:

1. **Practice Restriction**

Respondent's practice is restricted in that he shall not practice clinical medicine or any medicine involving direct patient care, and is prohibited from prescribing any form of treatment including prescription medications, until he applies to the board and receives the Board's approval to return to practice. Prior to requesting approval to return to the practice of medicine, Respondent shall complete the following conditions:

(a) Respondent shall enter a Board Staff approved treatment facility for a substance abuse evaluation and comply with all the recommendations of the treatment facility, including any recommendations for treatment and participation in the Board's Monitored Aftercare Program (MAP). Respondent is responsible for all expenses related to the evaluation, treatment, and/or participation in MAP. Respondent shall sign a consent to release all confidential evaluation and/or treatment records to the Board.

(b) Respondent shall undergo an evaluation by the Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program (PACE) at the University of California, San Diego, in hand surgery and comply with all recommendations of PACE. Any and all reports, assessments or other documents generated by PACE shall be forwarded by Pace to the Board for review.

(c) Respondent shall obtain 15-20 hours of Board Staff pre-approved Category I Continuing Medical Education (CME) in ethics and 15-20 hours in billing and provide Board Staff with a certificate of completion as satisfactory proof of attendance. The CME hours shall be in addition to the hours required for the biennial renewal of medical license.

2. This Order is the final disposition of case numbers MD-04-0102A, MD-05-0969A, MD-05-1206A, MD-06-0669A and MD-08-0890A.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 4TH day of FEBRUARY, 2009.



ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

By 
Lisa S. Wynn
Executive Director

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
This 4th day of February, 2009, with:

Arizona Medical Board
9545 E. Doubletree Ranch road
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed this
4th Day of February, 2009, to:

Peter E. Fisher, Esq.
Bradford Law Offices PLLC
4131 N. 24th Street
Suite C-201
Phoenix, AZ 85016-6256

William E. Mora, M.D.
Address of Record


Investigational Review